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## **CALIFORNIA SECRETARY FOR RESOURCES ANNOUNCES \$9 MILLION IN GRANTS TO SUPPORT RESTORATION OF WATERSHEDS**

Cleaner water, improved natural wildlife habitat, and greater awareness of the importance of watersheds are the goals of the State and our partner organizations around the state that received \$9 million in Proposition 50 grants announced today by the California Resources Agency.

"These grants continue the successful pilot program for our local community based watershed groups to hire watershed coordinators," said Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman. "We are working with the CALFED Watershed Program to ensure cleaner and healthier watersheds. We need creative solutions and private public partnerships for California's environment."

The grants are a continuation of a successful pilot program and will enable the recipients to hire watershed coordinators for a three-year period. Generally, watershed coordinators help assess local watersheds -- the area drained by a river or river system -- and help bring together local government, landowners and community groups through outreach, education and partnerships in order to improve the health of the watersheds.

The Resources Agency received 82 applications for the funds, which were reviewed by the Department of Conservation's Division of Land Resource Protection, and issued 48 grants. Funded through Proposition 50 (the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002) with the recommendation of the California Bay-Delta Authority, the grants ranged from \$63,600 to \$311,591.

"These local organizations do great work at the grassroots level, and helping to coordinate their efforts through this grant program will improve the protection of our watersheds," Department of Conservation Director Darryl Young said.

"We are very pleased with these selections for the watershed coordinator grants," added Patrick Wright, Director of the Authority, which oversees implementation of the overall CALFED Bay-Delta Program. "These grants provide money directly to local communities to better manage their watersheds - a key element of the CALFED."

In 2000, a pilot program issued \$2 million in grants, allowing Resource Conservation Districts to hire 30 watershed coordinators around the state. The 30 coordinators under the pilot program brought in more than \$9 in new watershed money for every program dollar expended, and formed more than 300 new partnership groups to address watershed

issues. Watershed coordinators work to get local consensus on watershed projects, perform baseline monitoring, plan projects and seek funding for projects.

Because of the successes, the program has been expanded to not only include RCDs, but also other special districts, local government agencies and non-profit organizations interested in watersheds from the Upper Pit River in the north to the Santa Ana River in the south.

A list of the organizations that received funding, the cities in which they are located, the main watersheds supported by the grants, the amount received, and local contact names and phone numbers follows:

- ♦ **Alpine County, Markleeville, Upper Mokelumne Watershed**, \$138,473: Judy Molnar, 530-694-2287
- ♦ **Arroyo Seco Foundation, Pasadena, Los Angeles Watershed**, \$214,360: Tim Brick, 626-584-9902
- ♦ **Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy, Manton, Upper Cow-Battle Watershed**, \$87,918: Sharon Paquin-Gilmore, 530-474-3368
- ♦ **Butte County Resource Conservation District, Forest Ranch, Honcut Headwaters**, \$218,338: Don Holtgrieve, 530-542-7166
- ♦ **Central Modoc Resource Conservation District, Alturas, Upper Pit Watershed**, \$196,330: Cliff Harvey, 530-233-8872.
- ♦ **Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development, Jackson, Upper Mokelumne Watershed**, \$311,591: Dick McCleery, 209-257-1951
- ♦ **Chowchilla-Red Top Resource Conservation District, Chowchilla, Upper Chowchilla-Upper Fresno Watershed**, \$176,430: Jennifer Gabor, 559-674-2108 x111
- ♦ **Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District, Morro Bay, Central Coastal Watershed**, \$165,977: Deborah Barker, 805-772-4391
- ♦ **Colusa County Resource Conservation District, Colusa, Upper Cache Watershed**, \$127,317: Patti Turner, 530-458-2931 x101
- ♦ **Contra Costa Public Works Department, Martinez, San Joaquin Delta Watershed**, \$215,959: Tonya Redfield, 925-313-2313
- ♦ **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District, Concord, Suisun Bay Watershed**, \$188,730.54: Carl Koop, 925-672-6522 x110
- ♦ **Deer Creek Watershed Conservancy, Cottonwood, Mill-Big Chico Watershed**, \$192,099: Viera Swearingen, 530-347-6637
- ♦ **Earth Resource Foundation, Costa Mesa, Santa Ana Watershed**, \$178,135: Stephanie Barger, 949-645-5163
- ♦ **East Merced Resource Conservation District, Merced, Middle San Joaquin-Lower Merced-Lower Stanislaus Watershed**, \$286,957: Teri Murrison, 209-852-0112
- ♦ **El Dorado Irrigation District, Placerville, South Fork American Watershed**, \$214,157: Cherri Jagers, 530-642-4108
- ♦ **Fall River Resource Conservation District, McArthur, Lower Pit Watershed**, \$195,518: Tim Weaver, 530-336-6591

- ◆ **Friends of Deer Creek, Nevada City, Upper Yuba Watershed, \$196,385:** John van der Veen, 530-265-6090
- ◆ **Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District, Placerville, South Fork American Watershed, \$123,386:** Mark Egbert, 530-295-5633
- ◆ **Glenn County Resource Conservation District, Willows, Upper Stony Watershed, \$78,292:** Cindy Horney, 530-934-4601 x 121
- ◆ **Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Watershed, \$249,854:** Rick Harter, 213-229-9950
- ◆ **Mariposa County Resource Conservation District, Mariposa, Upper Merced Watershed, \$155,654:** Nancy McConnell, 209-966-2221
- ◆ **Mojave Desert/Mountain RC&D Council, Ridgecrest, Upper Kern Watershed, \$216,236.80:** Jack Wright, 760-446-1974
- ◆ **Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Los Angeles, Santa Monica Bay Watershed, \$230,892:** Chuck Arnold, 323-221-9944 x183
- ◆ **Napa County Resource Conservation District, Napa, San Pablo Bay Watershed, \$228,139:** Leigh Sharp, 707-252-4188
- ◆ **Nevada County Resource Conservation District, Grass Valley, Lower Bear Watershed, \$232,434:** Tamara Gallentine, 530-272-3417 x104
- ◆ **Placer County Resource Conservation District, Auburn, North Fork American Watershed, \$234,013:** Rich Gresham, 530-885-3046 x118
- ◆ **Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains, Topanga, Santa Monica Bay Watershed, \$171,542:** Rebecca Barkin, 310-455-1030 x105
- ◆ **Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, Sacramento, Lower American Watershed, \$278,036:** Tim Hashburn, 916-874-8732
- ◆ **San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority, Menlo Park, Coyote Watershed, \$211,815:** Cynthia D'Agosta, 650-330-6765
- ◆ **San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District, Stockton, Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne Watershed, \$182,505:** John Brodie, 209-472-7127 x125
- ◆ **San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Fresno, Middle San Joaquin-Lower Chowchilla Watershed, \$158,624:** Sharon Weaver, 559-248-8480 x105
- ◆ **Santa Barbara County Water Agency, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Coastal Watershed, \$202,943:** Darcy Aston, 805-568-3546
- ◆ **Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, Beckwourth, Middle Fork Feather Watershed, \$185,460:** Jan Stine, 530-284-0907
- ◆ **Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District, Elk Grove, Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne Watershed, \$149,044:** Tina Lunt, 916-714-1104 x112
- ◆ **Solano Resource Conservation District, Dixon, Lower Sacramento Watershed, \$208,100:** Tacy Currey, 707-678-1655 x101
- ◆ **Sonoma Ecology Center, Sonoma, San Pablo Bay Watershed, \$155,193:** Caitlin Cornwall, 707-996-9744
- ◆ **Stockton East Water District, Stockton, Lower Calaveras-Mormon Slough Watershed, \$106,472:** Kevin Kauffman, 209-498-0333
- ◆ **Tehama County Resource Conservation District, Red Bluff, Sacramento-Lower Thomas Watershed, \$132,196:** Vicky Dawley, 530-527-3013 x114

- ◆ **Upper Putah Creek Stewardship, Middletown, Upper Putah Watershed,** \$153,400: Dwight Holford, 707-987-2600
- ◆ **Upper Sacramento River Exchange, Dunsmuir, Sacramento Headwaters Watershed,** \$163,944: Vince Cloward, 530-235-2012
- ◆ **Urban Watershed Project, San Francisco, San Francisco Bay Watershed,** \$63,600: Doug Kern, 415-561-4857
- ◆ **West Lake Resource Conservation District, Lakeport, Upper Cache Watershed,** \$148,414: Greg Dills, 707-263-4180
- ◆ **Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (two grants), Anderson, Upper Cow-Battle and Sacramento-Upper Clear Watersheds,** \$190,765 and \$202,516: Mary Schroeder, 530-365-7332
- ◆ **Westside Resource Conservation District, Tranquility, Upper Los Gatos-Avenal Watershed,** \$106,614.20: Sarge Green, 559-647-9198
- ◆ **Yolo County Resource Conservation District (two grants), Woodland, Lower Sacramento and Lower Cache Watersheds,** \$188,026 and \$229,662: Paul Robins, 530-662-2037 x116
- ◆ **Yuba County Resource Conservation District, Yuba City, Lower Feather Watershed,** \$165,096: RaeAnn Dubay, 530-527-3013 x118

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